

GRETCHEN PEED SCHOLARSHIP FUND POLICY

The Gretchen Peed Scholarship Fund is established to honor Mrs. Peed's outstanding contributions to the field of child welfare in her role as chair of the Board, member of the County Commission, and active citizen fully contributing to the community's responsibility to strengthen families and meet the needs of children.

Funds from the scholarship fund shall be made available to any child who is or has been in the legal custody of Catawba County Social Services. The scholarship is available for any post-high school education program. The selection of students to receive scholarships shall be made by the Board of Social Services. This shall be a perpetual fund and scholarships shall be generated from interest accrued from the donated principle. The principle shall not be accessed.

Scholarship awards may be made in the amounts determined by the Board of Social Services, with the following suggested amounts:

\$500 for a student enrolled in a four-year college program
\$250 for a student enrolled in a community college or junior college program
\$150 for a student enrolled in a technical program (i.e., cosmetology, upholstery, etc.)

The following criteria shall be used by the selection committee:

- Applicants shall have an overall "C" average for their last two years in high school.
- Applicants shall have a good attendance record in high school.
- Applicants do not have other sufficient financial resources available for continuing education.
- Applicants have three references that attest to their ability to reasonably establish goals and follow-through, and demonstrates potential to complete the chosen educational program.
- Applicants prepare and submit a short essay (between 200-300 words) stating their reasons for applying to the scholarship fund and their anticipated future plans.
- Applicants shall submit a written verification of acceptance and an educational program.
- Scholarships shall be awarded on an annual basis and may be renewable upon reapplication by an awarded applicant.
- Scholarship recipients must maintain a "C" average to qualify for continuing scholarship continuation.

All applications must be received by the Gretchen Peed Scholarship Fund no later than May 1 for educational programs to begin the following fall term, and no later than October 1 for educational programs beginning the following winter term.

PROCESS FOR YOUTH TO APPLY:

- 1) Applicant completes the essay and application process and sends to attention of Bobby Boyd, DSS Director.
- 2) DSS Board approves/disapproves at their regular meeting.
- 3) The DSS Director awards the scholarship in writing.
- 4) The applicant inquires with their college of choice on where to send the funds.
- 5) Once received, DSS Administration completes a PO (referencing the fund) and sends it along with a copy of the above materials to County Budget Office.
- 6) County Budget Office will have a check cut to the appropriate school. DSS will also need a copy of the billing from the school along with a copy of the person's grade report for our Admin Records.